(a) whether it is a fact that every year 211 million people got affected by natural disasters in the world;

(b) if so, whether Government has ascertained the number of people affected due to this in India;

(c) if so, the number thereof; and

(d) the incidents which are considered as natural disaster in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d) As per document released by United Nations Organization (UNO) on World Humanitarian Day, the total number of people affected by the natural disasters has risen sharply over the past decade. An average of 211 million people are directly affected each year, nearly five times the number affected by conflict. Women and children in particular are those already struggling with poverty, insecurity, hunger, poor health and environmental decline.

The average (for the years 1953-2008) annual population affected by heavy rains/floods works out to about 32 million in India.

The present list of notified natural calamities, which is based on the Award of 12th Finance Commission operative during the years 2005-06 to 2009-10, consists of cyclone, drought, earthquake/tsunami, fire, flood, hailstorm, landslide, avalanche, cloud burst and pest attack.

Prime Minister's visit to Chandigarh causing loss of innocent life

1435. SHRI MANGALA KISAN:

SHRIMATI RENUBALA PRADHAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prime Minister's recent visit to Chandigarh has claimed an innocent life;

(b) the number of instances in the last two years in which the VIP visits have caused avoidable delay in traffic management;

(c) if so, what the traffic police in Delhi plans to do, in such a case; and

(d) how Government is going to compensate the irreparable loss to that family?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Political parties disrupting communal harmony

1436. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: